

Behavioral Health Advisory Council Minutes (Draft)

MEETING DETAILS	
Date and time:	April 17, 2019 @ 10:00AM
Venue:	Conference Room @ VACSB Offices in Richmond, Virginia (10128 West Broad Street, Suite B, Glen Allen, VA 23060)
COUNCIL DEMOGRAPHICS	
Hayden Myer (MHAV/administrative agent for BHAC)	
Present	Laura Pearson (for Katharine Hunter with DBHDS); Jean Hoyt (VDH); Nathanael Rudney (DBHDS); Karlyn Clevert-Smith (Private Provider); Michael Gregory (Virginia DoE) ; Bruce Crusier (MHAV); Hilary Piland (VACSB); Rhonda Thissen and Caitlin Reynolds (NAMI VA); Malania Poore (VOCAL); Deidre Johnson (VOCAL); William Hart (Peer); Karen Kallay (Peer); Robin Hairfield-Cook (Peer); Betsy Lalla (Peer)
Guest (s)	None
Absent	Oketa Winn (DMAS), Catharine Harrison (DARS); Tara Belfast-Hurd (DBHDS Adult Svs); Livia Jansen (DJJ); Patricia Parham (DOC), Gail Taylor (DBHDS); Sandra O'Dell (Substance Abuse Services Council); Kathleen Levenston (Provider Adult MH); Ron Pritchard (VSIAS/VAAP); Shatada Foyd-White; Larry Almarode (Peer); Ashley Everette (Voices for Virginia's Children); Marjorie Yates (Peer/SAARA);; Calendria Jones (Peer)
Minutes Taken By	Hayden Myer
Presiding Officer	Bruce Crusier, Treasurer
Order Called	Full Council to meet first today, followed by committee meetings

Quorum **was not present** in today's meeting (requires 15 members, a majority [8 out 14] of these members need be consumers/peers, advocates, and family members)

No.	Item	Discussion/Action	Responsibility/Follow-Up (if applicable)
Welcome, Introductions, Public Comment			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the absence of other officers, Bruce Crusier, Treasurer, called the Council to order at 10:32 AM Rhonda Thissen introduced Caitlin Reynolds, who will be the representative for NAMI Virginia Laura Pearson (DBHDS) will be a proxy for Katharine Hunter Council members introduced themselves 	
Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings (October and December 2018; March and April 2019)			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes reviewed but voting did not take place because there was not a quorum present. Bruce went over the changes in the agenda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To approve October and December 2018; March and April 2019
Review/Adopt Changes to BHAC Bylaws			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bruce talked about the review of the Bylaws and thanked William for his patience, as it appears that we cannot vote on the proposed changes today due to a lack of quorum. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deidre Johnson said she would like to discuss the lack of quorum. She would like communication with the people who have not been attending; if people need to resign, they should do so, which will help with quorum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bruce will draft a letter to FOIA Council for guidance on how to make an alternative mode of attendance; Following-Up with Council

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Malaina talked about the Membership Committee's last round of going through members who have not attended in a certain number of meetings Betsy Lala shared that the committee contacted members who had not showed up in the 3 consecutive meetings, inquired about their interest, and made changes based on that Rhonda, Karen and others shared that calling into a meeting/alternate method of attendance should be allowed. Karen has been researching options. Bruce shared that he and Katharine Hunter looked at Virginia's FOIA and although BHAC doesn't fit cleanly into any of the FOIA meeting categories, they determined that call in was not allowed; We could ask the FOIA Council directly to advise us Bruce said another previous suggestion was for the Commissioner to send a letter to members of the Council to highlight the importance of the Council and thanking members for their service Change in interpretation of Bylaws Quorum Issue - During the discussion, William reviewed the current bylaws again and noticed that in the original Bylaws, Article 8 (Amendments to Bylaws) has three rules for making Bylaw Amendments; one of these rules is that the bylaws may be amended if 60% of members present are in approval of Bylaw changes (for example, if there are 10 people, 6 people must approve). Council came to a consensus that, acting in good faith, the Council may vote on the bylaw amendments at the current meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> William gave a brief overview of the changes to the Bylaws as they were presented 6 months ago. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dissolve Finance Subcommittee; Adult Services Committee and Elder Services Committees were merged in these proposals; Child & Adolescent Committee changed to Child & Youth Consolidating Budget and Funding Committee with Evaluation and Monitoring Committee by dropping the Budget & Funding Committee to merge the tasks to Evaluation and Monitoring Committee Another proposed change is changing election of officers from December to June William shared that these proposed changes would impact the following: changing committees, moving elections to June, and filling vacancies It was discussed that after three consecutive absences, officers can be removed from the Council Motions were made to approve each Bylaw amendment were made and seconded, and unanimously approved. For review at a later date: bylaws governing "unexcused" vs. "excused" absences, removal; 	<p>members who have not attended in a certain number of meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Having the difficult discussions with people who have not attended Bylaw Amendments have been approved
Charge to Nominating Committee to Develop Slate of Officers for June Elections			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bruce charged the Membership Committee chairperson to develop a slate of officers for June elections (specifically for President, Vice President, and Secretary) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership Committee to develop a slate of officers

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deidre Johnson suggested that perhaps adding more detailed descriptions/guidance for officers Betsy asked how to gauge interest and/or nominate for officers; the council is to email Betsy about this A majority of officers cannot be state employees; Rhonda Thissen asked for clarification state employees could be individuals/families/peers 	for June elections (specifically for President, Vice President, and Secretary)
Review/Approval of BHAC Letters to the Commissioner			
BREAK FOR LUNCH			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two draft letters from BHAC to the Commissioner were distributed (and included in the email that went out to BHAC); Karen Kallay gave an overview and context of the two letters that her committee drafted Letter # 1 – DBHDS Support for BHAC - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nathanael shared that now DBHDS is technically fully staffed He added that progress has been made on staff vacancy issues addressed in the draft, but that there are other DBHDS positions that are or need to be involved in supporting the Block Grant Others suggested we should make the tone more positive, revise to thank the commissioner for filling the position that Nathanael's now in, and to encourage higher-up participation in DBHDS. Nathanael said he appreciated the letter; and that he supports the mission of the Council and the work of Peer Support Services The consensus was that Bruce should revise the letter based on the comments and send back out to the members for review. Letter # 2 - Recommendations for using increase in Behavioral Health Block Grant funds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nathanael gave context and shared that the money would be expended October 2019 through September 2020; there is no certainty the increase will continue beyond 2020 Nathanael shared that there are some federal restrictions on how the money can be spent, but that he does support the Council making recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trainings can be included; peer services can be included, The Council discussed the recommendations for the letter Deidre Johnson shared that perhaps tapping into technical assistance funds for emerging peer services. Also suggested a train the trainer for Intentional Peer Support Nathanael shared he did not know what part of that money has been “spoken for”, and he would need to take it back to DBHDS to figure this out Discussion on the suggestion to use money to help peer centers measure 	Block Grant Committee will review and revise the letter; the letters will be sent to the Commissioner once approved by the committee and given to the Council for any comments.

		<p>outcomes: William Hart shared that many peer-run centers do not measure outcomes, and peer services look different across the state, and he asked how this would then possibly change peer-run centers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nathanael shared that data collection may not be what the Council wants to focus on with this letter ○ The agency is moving towards outcomes-based system, and Nathanael shared that data could be difficult to address in this letter • Other questions/comments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are concerns about the data collection and trying to launch new sites with one-time funds; the need for training, technology/infrastructure ○ We could express that we are interested in being at the table to discuss where these funds will be going ○ In the past there was some arbitrary/unknown formulas about how the funding was allocated ○ Nathanael shared that specifying “peer-run services” being included in the letter is not unreasonable; half of the money going to renewals of existing peer-run centers ○ Sustainability is an important part of the allocation of these funds ○ Part of the consensus includes training, peer-run services, and any CSBs that are lagging/not offering with peer services in their localities ○ Nathanael’s data: as of the end of March, there are 471 CPRS, 1302 in recovery have been trained; 378 PRS Supervisors; there are not a lot of localities that do not provide peer services ○ Since 2008, many peer run organizations have not received an increase in funding; Council agrees this needs to be addressed ○ Council also agreed that some money could go to the CSBs that are lacking in peer services and some to the peer-run centers. The council wants transparency and wants to be able to give input into how the money is spent ○ Bruce asked someone from the committee to revise the draft letter to reflect the consensus: a majority of funding to peer-run organizations (with an understanding that there may be some CSBs in need of funding that aren’t providing peer services); priorities for funding being training, technology/infrastructure, staffing to the discretion of the peer-run organizations ○ Block Grant Committee will review and revise the letter; the letter will be circulated for approval before being sent to the Commissioner 	
Next Steps			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June elections of officers • Two letters for the Commissioner to be revised, sent out, then sent to the Commissioner • Red-lined Bylaws will be revised and circulated • Block Grant, Membership & Nominating Committee to meet to discuss their perspective issues (letters to the commissioner; June election of officers) • Go over items that were not able to go over during today’s meeting (Data Reports that were sent in emails and VCU Center on Society and Health report • Updates on funding proposals for the CSBs from Nathanael and in terms of how funding is looked at in the future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Letters to be revised, re-circulated, then sent to Commissioner • Nathanael – letter from Nominating Committee • Amend “Red-Lined” Bylaws to be sent out • Go over items that were not discussed in this

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JLARC Study report to look at some changes • Request for summary of paragraph for data reports that are long 	meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officer Elections
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Agency Updates

Agency Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DBHDS is sponsoring tabling events; boxes of materials are going out; there's a link on the DBHDS website to request this <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ May 9th from 5 to 7 at UMFS – panel of youth speak about their experience; email Katharine Hunter • VOCAL Conference is coming up; BHAC can help fund conference attendance; email hayden.myer@mhav.org for this • Hanover CSB has a new Director of Services; recently expanded Drug Court program (from 6 to 20 people) • Michael Gregory shared that they have an information sharing reference guide from Department of Education 	
Meeting was adjourned at 1:58PM.	Notes by Myer, Crusier	

Next Meeting: June 19, 2019 (Officer Elections to Be Held)

Location of meetings for each meeting in 2019: VACSB Conference Room.

List of All Meeting Dates for 2019

February 20, 2019 (Rescheduled to March 25, 2019)

April 17, 2019

June 19, 2019

August 24, 2019

October 16, 2019

December 11, 2019 (note: this is the 2nd Wednesday instead of the 3rd Wednesday because of the holiday season)